

AUG 2 1966

# Fulbright Warns Escalation Risks World War

CPYRGHT

By CHARLES CARTER  
Denver Post Staff Writer

BOULDER—Sen. J. William Fulbright, D-Ark., warned Monday afternoon of national immaturity, the dangers of escalation and portents of a permanent U.S. involvement in Southeast Asia.

He reminded those who don't like U.S. policy in Viet Nam that congressional elections are due this year—and a Presidential election in 1968.

Fulbright is chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. The spare, gray-at-the-temple senator, who's been vilified and glorified because of his vocal dissatisfaction with the direction of the Vietnamese war, spoke at the University of Colorado.

The 1,200 seats in the Memorial Center ballroom were filled. Another 200 listeners, mostly students, crowded around the edges or listened to Fulbright's speech as it was broadcast into another room.

The title of the speech was, "Twenty Years of the Fulbright Act." But in a question-answer session afterward—and several times during the talk—Fulbright turned to matters outside the international - education program which bear his name.

People want to talk about Viet Nam everywhere, he said — "no matter what I try to talk about."

The sympathetic audience ap

plauded when he told them a mature nation is "more interested in helping people to be happy than in forcing them to be virtuous."

In the question-and-answer session, he summarized the Viet Nam conflict — which he characterized as a civil war — and decried the bombing of North Viet Nam.

"In escalating this war, there's always the possibility—sometimes I am tempted to say the probability — of the development of World War III," he said.

## WHAT CAN WE DO?

To those who asked, "What can we do?" Fulbright said:

"Now there are elections this fall, and there are going to be elections two years from now — and this is the proper way for people to express disapproval of a government they don't like."

In a press conference afterward, he said he doesn't plan to stump the country at election time, attacking the war.

"I hope (what I said) wasn't interpreted that I'm about to go out and campaign against everyone who supports the President," he said.

## FAMILIAR THEMES

As Fulbright touched on the familiar themes in his speech, he was interrupted for applause several times — at his assertion the \$400 million Fulbright Scholarship program has cost less than a week's fighting in Viet Nam, at his praise of exchange agreements with Communist countries, at his reference to the U.S. moon-shot program as "prancing in space" in the face of more pressing needs.

He was applauded also when

he remarked the exchange program has been kept free of politics—"even free from any subversion by the CIA."

"There is a gap," he said, "a very wide one, between scientific power and political wisdom in international relations."

"International educational exchange programs can narrow this gap by helping us to break through some of the prevailing myths of our international relations—of which the most dangerous is the belief that different political philosophies cannot survive together in the same world, that sooner or later one must prevail over all others."

He said recent statements by administration officials—he named Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey—hint that the United States doesn't really intend to get out of Southeast Asia even if the Vietnamese war ends.

Fulbright said he has "grave reservations" about the wisdom of assuming a permanent responsibility there and, in any event, "It ought to be submitted to what I would call the usual approval or disapproval by the Congress."

In the press conference, he said it is difficult to know when administration spokesmen are mouthing the views of the President.

Fulbright told a questioner, "I anticipate that there may be further hearings (into the war) . . . at the proper time." Televised hearings were held last winter.

After the press conference, about six students clustered around Fulbright as he left the lounge in the Memorial Center. They tried to lure him downstairs for coffee and more talk, but he declined, protesting, "I am a guest . . ."